

STRANGE TALES **MARVEL COMICS GROUP**™

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STRANGE TALES™ **FEATURING:**

WARLOCK™



HE'S BACK!
MARVEL'S
MOST UNIQUE,
MOST
STARTLING
SUPER HERO
OF ALL!



**THE MAN WHO
STALKED
THE STARS!**



Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

JIM STARLIN
WRITER, ARTIST *
COLORIST

ANNETTE KAWECKI
LETTERER

LEN WEIN
* EDITOR

WHO IS
ADAM

WARLOCK?



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HIYA KIDS!
SPHINXOR FROM THE
STAR SYSTEM **PEGASUS**
HERE!

SEEMS THAT A **FEW**
OF YOU OUT THERE DON'T
KNOW WHO **WARLOCK**
IS! SHAME, SHAME,
SHAME!

WELL
UNCLE STAN'S
ASKED ME TO
FILL YOU IN.

SO HANG ON AND TAKE
NOTES! 'CAUSE WE'VE GOT
A LOT TO COVER IN **FOUR**
PAGES!

WELL,
TO **BEGIN**
WITH...

...**OL ADAM**
WARLOCK WAS
BORN RIGHT
HERE ON
EARTH. BELIEVE
IT'OR NOT!
TROUBLE IS,
ADAM WARLOCK
WASN'T REALLY
BORN. AT LEAST
NOT LIKE YOU
WERE!

HIS **BIRTH**
PLACE WAS A
REMOTE SUPER-
GOPHISTICATED
RESEARCH LAB
CALLED THE "**BEE**
NIVE." THIS LAB'S
PURPOSE WAS TO
CREATE THE **PER-**
FECT MAN OF
THE FUTURE!

SO YOU MIGHT
SAY THE **FOUR**
MEAN WHO HEADED
UP THE PROJECT
WERE WARLOCK'S
FATHERS! IT'S
TOO BAD...

"YOU MIGHT SAY
HIS **MOTHER** WAS
THE **COCCON** HE
BURST FORTH FROM
AT BIRTH!"

"HE WAS LIKE A
COWLED BACK THEN,
BUT WHAT A **CHILD!**
HE STEPPED INTO
THE WORLD WITH
THE **POWER** OF AN
ATOMIC BOMB, ABLE
TO **LOOK** INTO MEN'S
SOULS...

"...AND **WHAT** HE
SAW IN HIS PSEUDO-
PARENTS' SOULS,
HE DID NOT LIKE!"

"...SO HIS INFANT-
LIKE **REASONING**
TOLD HIM TO DEAL
WITH THE SITUATION
THE **ONLY** WAY HE
FELT IT COULD BE
HANDLED, WHICH
WAS TO...

"...**DESTROY** HIS
FATHERS' LAB...
WITH THEM IN
IT!"



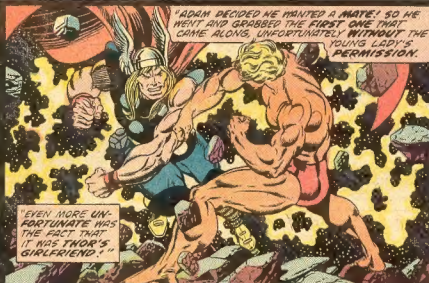
"...THAT ADAM'S POPS WERE
STINKERS! THE ONLY REA-
SON THEY WERE CREATING
ADAM WAS SO HE'D GO
CONQUER THE EARTH FOR
THEM!"

"HIS MOTHER?"



"FOR THE NEXT COUPLE
OF EARTH YEARS, WAR-
LOCK WANDERED THE
SPACENAYS, MEETING
OLD RACES OF BEINGS,
SEEING WONDROUS
SIGHTS, BUT MOST IM-
PORTANT, LEARNING
VALUABLE LESSONS.
SUCH AS:

IF YOU MESS
WITH A **THUNDER**
GOD, EXPECT TO
GET YOUR **TAIL**
STOMPED!



"ADAM DECIDED HE WANTED A MATE! SO HE
WENT AND GRABBED THE FIRST ONE THAT
CAME ALONG, UNFORTUNATELY WITHOUT THE
YOUNG LADY'S
PERMISSION."

"EVEN MORE UN-
FORTUNATE WAS
THE FACT THAT
IT WAS THOR'S
GIRLFRIEND."

THAT WAS
HOW ADAM
WARLOCK LEARNT
HUMILITY!

"AT THIS POINT OUR
HERO (WHO WAS KNOWN
ONLY AS 'HIM' BACK
THEN) DECIDED IT WAS
TIME TO RETURN TO HIS
COCCOON AND MEDITATE
UPON HIS, UP TO NOW,
USELESS EXISTENCE!"

"WARLOCK NEEDED A
PURPOSE IN LIFE, AND
FATE DECIDED TO GIVE
IT TO HIM! NOW? BY
HAVING HIS FREE-
FLOATING COCCOON
FALL INTO THE
HANDS OF A
GOD-LIKE
BEING
KNOWN AS..."

"...THE HIGH
EVOLUTIONARY..."



"...CREATOR OF
THE NEW MEN!"

TALK ABOUT
AMBITION! NOW
HERE WAS A GENT
WITH **PLANS**, AND
THE **POWER** TO
PULL THEM OFF!

"HE TOOK A SMALL
ROCK FROM EARTH
AND CREATED A
WORLD ROUND IT, A
WORLD DESTINED TO
BECOME EARTH'S
DOUBLE ON THE FAR
SIDE OF THE SUN!"

"HE THEN PEOPLED IT
WITH **HUMANS** FREE
OF ALL EVIL. THIS
WAS BORN PARADISE!"

"BUT A CREATION GONE
BAD OF THE HIGH EVOLU-
TIONARY INTERVENED
AND INSTILLED THE INSA-
NITIES OF GREED, HATE,
BISOTRY AND ALL THE
OTHER EVILS OF THE ORIGI-
NAL EARTH IN THE NEW
PLANET WHILE ITS CREATOR
RESTED!"



"THE HIGH EVOLU-
TIONARY CALLED IT
COUNTER-EARTH!"

"THIS
DIED
PARADISE!"

SO HISTORY REPEATED ITSELF! COUNTER-EARTH FOLLOWED THE SAME SORRY PATH AS ITS SISTER PLANET!

ALL OF MAN'S INHUMANITIES TO MAN WERE RE-ENACTED! THE SINS OF THE ORIGINAL BECAME THE HISTORY OF SECOND EARTH!

THIS WAS THE WORK OF THE HIGH EVOLUTIONARY'S WORST FAILURE... THE LEADER OF THE SINISTER 'NEW MEN'... THE EVIL BEING KNOWN AS THE... **MAN-BEAST!**

"WELL, ADAM HAD BEEN LOOKING FOR A PURPOSE IN LIFE AND NOW HE HAD ONE! IT LOOKED LIKE HE WAS GOING TO BE THE ONLY THING STANDING BETWEEN MAN-BEAST AND THE COMPLETE DESTRUCTION OF COUNTER-EARTH!"

"A BIRTH CURSED BY MANY A FOUL VOICE! TIME AND TIME AGAIN THE GOLDEN GLADIATOR SHATTERED THE PLANS AND RANKS OF MAN-BEAST'S WICKED NEW-MEN, WHILE GAINING A LOYAL FOLLOWING AMONG THE EARTHMEN!"

"BUT PEOPLE DIED IN WARS, AND COUNTER-EARTH'S CONFLICT WOULD BE NO EXCEPTION! MANY ON BOTH SIDES WOULD PERISH AND WITH EACH DEATH A BIT MORE OF ADAM ALSO DIED, UNTIL..."



"SO ADAM CAME ON LIKE THE MARINES! COUNTER-EARTH FINALLY HAD A HERO!"

"HE ADOPTED HIS PRESENT NAME, DONNED A COLORFUL COSTUME AND WAS GIVEN A POWERFUL SOUL-GEN BY THE HIGH EVOLUTIONARY! SO ADAM WARLOCK WAS AT LAST BORN!"



BUT THE BITTEREST PART OF THIS TRAGEDY WAS THAT MANKIND WAS FORCED INTO THIS RE-RUN MADNESS.

FOR EVERY WAR THAT FLARED EVERY TYRANT THAT CAME INTO POWER, EVERY CRUELTY INFLICTED UPON HUMANITY WAS PREORDAINED BY THE CRAFTY HAND OF THAT PLANET'S OWN SERPENT IN THE GARDEN!

WARLOCK HIMSELF
FELL VICTIM TO THE FORCES
HE OPPOSED!

BUT SO POWERFUL
WAS ADAM'S SPIRIT THAT
NOT EVEN DEATH COULD
LONG CONTAIN IT!

SO ADAM
CROSSED
BACK INTO THE
LAND OF THE
LIVING
TO ACCOMPLISH
THAT FOR WHICH
HE HAD GIVEN
HIS LIFE!



"HE RETURNED TO STOP
MAN-BEAST, WHO HAD
PRESENTLY FOUND A
NEW FOE IN THE
LUMBERING HULK!"

"WARLOCK HAD JUST
CONQUERED DEATH, SO
NO MAN-BEAST WAS
GOING TO STOP HIM
NOW!"



"USING THE POWER OF HIS SOUL-
GEM, HE REVERTED ALL THE NEW-
MEN BACK TO THEIR ORIGINAL
ANIMAL STATES."



"COUNTER-
EARTH WAS
AT LAST
SAVED
FROM THE
BEAST
WITHIN."

"FOR WARLOCK THE JOB WAS OVER.
COUNTER-EARTH'S FATE AT LAST
LAY IN THE HANDS OF ADAM'S
FOLLOWERS AND..."



"...THAT PLANET'S
PEOPLE!"

"AS FOR WARLOCK...THE STARS BECKONED LIKE A FORMER LOVE AND
HE ANSWERED THE ONLY WAY HE COULD!"



EDITOR'S NOTE:
THE PRECEDING WAS
ORIGINALLY CHRONICLED
IN:
FANTASTIC FOUR #66-67
THOR #155-156
MARVEL PREMIERE #1-2
WARLOCK #1-8
HULK #176-178

THE TIME: THE PRESENT!
FRANTIC FEET SILENTLY
SPEED ACROSS A BARREN
PLANETOID SURFACE!

PANIC AND TERROR...

...THE HUNTED!

**THE PLACE: AN UN-
CHARTED SATELLITE
IN THE STAR CLUSTER
HERCULES. GRIMLY A
COSMIC TRAGEDY
NEARS ITS CLIMAX.**

**DETERMINATION
AND CONFIDENCE...**

**...THE
HUNTERS!**

...MUST...
FIND HIM!

CAN'T...
LET THEM...
TAKE ME!

ARGH!
MY
ANKLE!

**SOME LOOSE EARTH AND
A GRIM RACE ENDS!**

**THE GIRL FALLS FACE FIRST TO THE GROUND
AND WHEN SHE FINALLY LOOKS UP AGAIN...**

YOU?!

WHAT
TRANSPIRES
HERE?

YOU'RE
WARLOCK!

I'VE CROSSED A
DOZEN GALAXIES TO
FIND YOU! A **THOUSAND**
WORLDS, A **BILLION**
PEOPLE SEEK YOUR
AID!

HELP US!

ENTER THE

MAGUS!

CHAPT. II

ONCE AGAIN I ASK...WHAT TRANSPIRES?

STAND ASIDE, GOLD-SKIN!

YOU'RE SHIELDING A
FUGITIVE INFIDEL, A
NON-BELIEVER!

THE
UNIVERSAL
CHURCH OF
TRUTH HAS
FOUND HER
SOUL UNSAL-
VAGEABLE...SO
SHE'S MARKED
FOR TERMIN-
ATION!

IT'S THE JOB OF WE
GRAND INQUISITORS
TO END THIS HEATHEN'S
LIFE SPAN!

IN THAT CASE,
I CANNOT
STEP ASIDE!

THEN,
IN THAT
CASE...

DOWN
LASS!!

YOU ARE NOW UNDER
MY PROTECTION...

...DIE,
INFIDEL!

...WHICH MEANS NONE MAY RAISE THEIR HANDS
AGAINST YOU, LEST THEY DARE THE WRATH
OF WARLOCK!

SOMETHING A CERTAIN
TRIO OF RELIGIOUS
FANATICS WOULD DO
WELL TO AVOID!

BORGIA!!

WELL STRUCK, BORGIA!

YOU ROCKIES ARE NOT
CALLED THE TEMPORAL
PUNISHERS FOR NOTHING!

AYE, THIS ONE MUST
PAY FOR HIS SINS!

HE SOUGHT TO OPPOSE
THE WILL OF THE UNIVERSAL
CHURCH OF TRUTH; THUS
HE MUST SHARE THE FATE OF
ALL NON-BELIEVERS!

BY THE GRACE
OF THE HOLY
MAGUS...

...DIE!

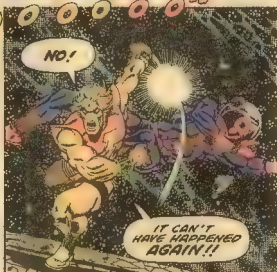
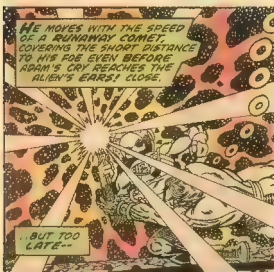
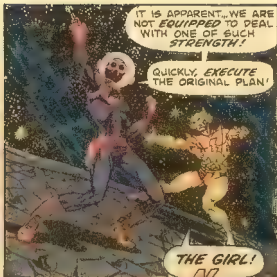
BY THE
GRAND
NEBULA, THIS
CREATURE IS
AS STRONG...
NO, STRONGER
THAN I!

WE MUST COME
FROM A WORLD
AT LEAST A
THOUSAND
TIMES LARGER
THAN EARTH TO
POSSESS SUCH
NATURAL
STRENGTH!

I'VE NO TIME
TO OUTFIGHT
HIM--THE GIRL
STILL NEEDS TO
BE PROTECTED
FROM THIS BRUTE'S
COMRADES!

SO I'M
FORCED
TO USE...

...THE
POWER
OF THE
SOUL-
GEM!





THIS...



...IS...



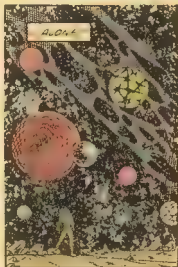
...WRONG!



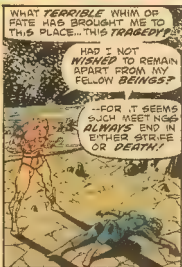
SACRED MISSION COMPLETED! PREPARE TO TRANSPORT BACK TO INQUISITION CENTRAL!



CIRCUITS OPEN AND CLOSE, ENERGY POURS INTO FLARING BELT TELEPORTER! AND IN A FLASH WARLOCK IS...



ALONE



WHAT TERRIBLE WHIM OF FATE HAS BROUGHT ME TO THIS PLACE... THIS TRAGEDY?

HAD I NOT WISHED TO REMAIN APART FROM MY FELLOW BEINGS?

--FOR IT SEEMS SUCH MEETINGS ALWAYS END IN EITHER STRIFE OR DEATH!



NOW, AS IF TO REAFFIRM THAT BELIEF... THIS YOUNG GIRL COMES SEEKING AID AND FINDS DEATH!

A HIGH PRICE YOU CHARGE FOR YOUR SERVICES, WARLOCK!



THEN AGAIN, WHY DID SHE NEED MY HELP?

SHE OBVIOUSLY NEEDED AID AGAINST THESE FANATICAL MAGUS WORSHIPERS...



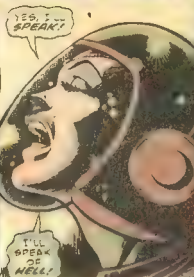
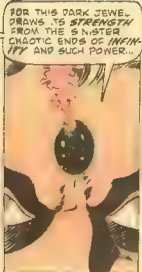
PITY SHE DIDN'T LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO LET ME KNOW WHO THEY ARE!

I MUST KNOW MORE ABOUT THESE MONSTERS BEFORE WE MEET AGAIN!

SO I'VE LITTLE CHOICE!



I MUST FORCE THE GIRL TO TELL ME MORE!



GUESS WHO'S COMING TO
CHRISTMAS DINNER?
MERRY MARVEL, THAT'S WHO!

THAT'S RIGHT! YOUR
BLUSHIN' BULLPEN
PROUDLY PRESENTS
ITS **FIRST ANNUAL**
COLLECTION OF
CHRISTMAS
CLASSICS AND
COLORFUL
COMBATS!

EVERY PAGE A
GIANT-SIZED
10" X 14"

A RIOTOUS
100 PAGES
OF FULL-COLOR
FEATURES!
NO ADS!!

14 of MARVEL'S
MOST
MAGNIFICENT
SUPER-STARS
DRAWN BY EIGHT
OF MARVEL'S
MOST TALENTED
TITANS--
AND IT'S ALL FOR
YOU!



WHAT
A WAY
TO FILL YOUR
CHRISTMAS STOCKING
(OR MAYBE SOMEBODY ELSE'S!)
GRAB A HOLIDAY
HANDFUL OF 'EM--
ON SALE IN **NOV.!**



"FOR ME, HELL CAME IN THE FORM OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF TRUTH, A 'PIOUS FAITH' MADE UP OF 'SAINTLY SOULS' WHO WISH TO SAVE ALL THE SOULS IN ALL THE GALAXIES!



"THEY WORSHIP A DEITY CALLED THE MAGUS, A POWERFUL BEING THAT CAME FROM THE STARS NEARLY FIVE THOUSAND YEARS AGO AND SET HIMSELF UP AS A GOD!"



"THE BASIC TEACHINGS OF THE MAGUS ARE, TO SAY THE LEAST... ADMIRABLE! IF ALL LIVED BY HIS TEACHINGS, THE UNIVERSE WOULD BE A PLACE OF PEACE!"



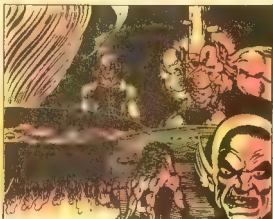
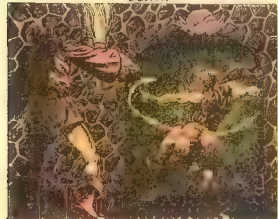
"UNFORTUNATELY, THOSE TEACHINGS ONLY APPLY WITHIN THE CHURCH! LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR -AS LONG AS HE'S A FELLOW UNIVERSALITE! THE MATRIARCH, THE CHURCH'S TEMPORAL LEADER, SEES TO THAT!"



"UNDER HER HEAVY-HANDED RULE, THE CHURCH HAS BECOME THE MOST POWERFUL FORCE IN THE GALAXY. TO QUESTION CHURCH DOCTRINE OR POLICY IS HERESY AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY DEATH!"



"THE CHURCH'S GREATEST SOURCE OF POWER IS THE CONSTANT DELUGE OF CONVERSIONS. IT'S AMAZING HOW, WITH THE PROPER 'INDOCTRINATION,' THOUSANDS JOIN THE FAITH DAILY!"

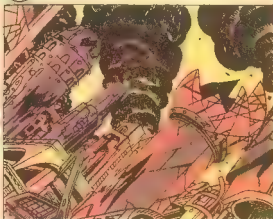




"OF COURSE, THERE'S ALWAYS THOSE STIFF-NECKED WORLDS THAT NEVER COME OVER TO THE FAITH! IN THOSE CASES, THE MOST SACRED PURIFICATION FLEET IS SENT OUT!"

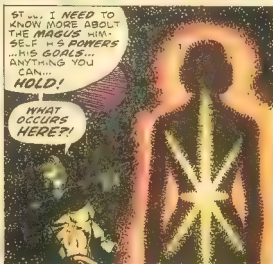


"THE FLEET'S RECORD IS PERFECT! WHEN THEY FINISH WITH A WORLD, IT IS ALWAYS FREE OF NON-BELIEVERS! SUCH IS THE WAY OF THE MAGUS!"



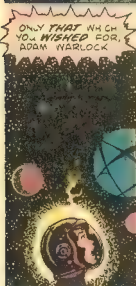
YOU WANT A GRIM PICTURE, LASS? ONE THAT STIRS MY VERY SOUL!

YOU DID WELL TO CONTACT ME, FOR I SENSE DARK FORCES AT WORK HERE WHICH ONLY I MAY BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH

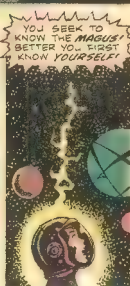


ST... I NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE MAGUS HIMSELF HIS POWERS... HIS GOALS... ANYTHING YOU CAN... HOLD!

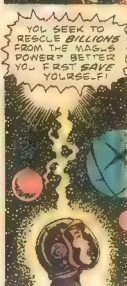
WHAT OCCURS HERE?!



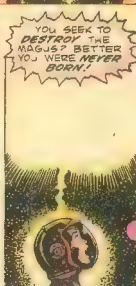
ONLY THAT WHICH YOU WISHED FOR, ADAM WARLOCK



YOU SEEK TO KNOW THE MAGUS? BETTER YOU FIRST KNOW YOURSELF!



YOU SEEK TO RESCUE BILLIONS FROM THE MAGUS POWER? BETTER YOU FIRST SAVE YOURSELF!



YOU SEEK TO DESTROY THE MAGUS? BETTER YOU WERE NEVER BORN!

FOR I AM THE
MAGUS!

I AM THE
ULTIMATE FORCE!
WHAT I WISH...**IS!** DE-
PENDENT UPON MY MOOD,
WORLDS LIVE OR GALAXIES
DIE!

FOR I AM THE
MAGUS!
I HAVE THE POWER
TO COMMAND!

I AM POWER
ABSOLUTE! I AM
THE GOD
SUPREME!



YOU DARE TO CHALLENGE
ME! NO DARKER SIN
EXISTS THROUGHOUT
THE STARS

ONLY THE FACT THAT YOU ARE
AN UNTUTORED PAGAN SAVES
YOU FROM COMPLETE DESTRUCTION...
BODY AND SOUL YET



BY THE DARKEST HELL!!
WHAT MADNESS IS THIS!

I AM ATTACKED BY
STRANGE YET FAMILIAR
DEMONS! THEY SEEK
TO TEAR...TO STRANGLE
TO DROWN ME IN THEIR
NUMBERS!



AWAY!

PAEANS AND SELF-PLAUDITS FROM THE PUNDITS OF PANDEMONIUM!

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Hang in there, hero! We've got a couple of mind-blowin' items for you this month, so let's zero right in. First, how lucky can you be? You'll be seeing more sensational stories than ever from ol' ROY THOMAS from now on. Yep, the Rascally One has been itching to devote more of his time to writing, and he's finally decided to take the plunge. Hence, from this day forth, our award-winning editor becomes Editor Emeritus, a title he so richly deserves, as I hereby announce (and not without a twinge of envy), that he'll be scripting more Marvel masterworks than ever before. So here's to the youngest titleholder in all of Emeritusdom—long may he reign! Next ish, we'll describe our new editorial lineup in detail, but for now—onward!

It hadda happen! There's another Comics Con a'coming! But not just any other comics-book convention—nope, this time it's a MARVEL Con! That's right—during Easter vacation time your batty Bulpen is putting together one of the most exciting projects of the year for Marvelom Assembled. At a major New York hotel we'll be holding the biggest, brassiest, brain-blastingest Marvel convention of all time! It'll be three full days of fun, fantasy, and fan-heaven as you mingle with the greatest names in the Marvel galaxy! So, if you're planning a go-away vacation during Easter, we just wanna alert you—New York's where it'll all be happening! More info next month!

One last word, gang. I'm really overwhelmed by all the college lecture offers you've been tossing this way. I wish there was time to accept each one, but I want you to know I'm frantically trying to juggle my schedule so I can do as many as possible. I don't know whether all of academia wants to hear about Marvel, or if you're just trying to keep me on the move so I won't have time to write any more Soapboxes! But whatever it is, keep those cards and letters comin', folks! And remember, it's time to take a toad to lunch!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! Let's roll out the red carpet for Free-wheelin' FRANK ROBBINS. Marvel's newest artist and bon vivant! As many of you know, Frank's the artist and writer of the newspaper comic-strip "Johnny Hazard," and is considered by his peers to be one of the finest craftsmen in the business.

Now, after cutting his incisors on a Morbius tale or two in the pages of ADVENTURES INTO FEAR, Frank has stepped in to give our pal SAL BUSCEMA a well-earned rest from the pages of CAPTAIN AMERICA—and to team up with Roy the Boy on a brand new 50¢ title due to debut early in '75. Its title? THE INVADERS! (Who's going to be in this newest, most exciting super-group? We'll leave you guessing for a month or so, pilgrim. Suffice it to say that we think the lineup of this liltin' legion is going to catch nearly everybody off guard, and that Free-wheelin' Frank will definitely have his hands full!)

ITEM! Speaking of artist switches, it's nostalgia time, as Genial GENE COLAN once more takes over the reins of our DR. STRANGE strip. Remember those cabalistic classics of yesteryear? Well, get set to have 'em all eclipsed by the new team of COLAN, JANSON, and ENGELHART! As for Doc's previous artist, Far-out FRANK BRUNNER, he's keeping busy on one of the most-requested back-up features of all time. Yep, we're talking about none other than HOWARD THE DUCK, who's now appearing regularly in the pages of our quarterly GIANT-SIZE MAN-THING mag (where else?). When you ask for things long enough and loud enough round Marvelom you get 'em! (Okay, okay, we know, we know—so where's the Silver Surfer?)

ITEM! In case you haven't noticed, we've added a new 50¢ center or two as well. Still on sale, hopefully, is our new GIANT-SIZE KID COLT title, which spotlights the wildest new western team-ups ever. And this month sees GIANT-SIZE CHILLERS #1, with art by ALCALA, ALCAZAR, and right on thru the alphabet with Marvel's greatest mystery artists. What's more, December will herald the way-outest new mag of all—

GIANT-SIZE SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP, co-starring (just for starters, mind you) Dr. Doom and the savage Sub-Mariner! How's that for an off-the-wall blockbuster announcement! (Well, if that doesn't hold you, how about this? THE X-MEN are coming back, in brand new tales, in a giant-size mag due to debut just a couple of short months from now! We could've held back on that one, but we wanted to give all you mutant-boosters a chance to start saving your radioactive shekels.)

ITEM! Oh, and just so you don't think you've gone completely bananas, we thought we'd best clue you in that, due to circumstances beyond our control, the first issue of our new \$1 magazine MARVEL PREVIEW (introducing the long-awaited new feature "Man-Gods From Beyond The Stars") was delayed at the last possible moment, and will be on sale in the next few weeks instead of right now, as we announced last issue. Sorry about that, friends, but we wanted to polish that gem up just right for you. Meanwhile, though, the premiere ish of our new \$1.50 title, UNKNOWN WORLDS OF SCIENCE FICTION, is on sale—complete with comic-strip versions of stories like Wyndham's Day of the Triffids masterpiece, Bob Shaw's stunning "Slow Glass" tales, plus art and story by the likes of COLAN, CONWAY, FREAS, ADAMS, WILLIAMSON, ISABELLA, KALUTA, and that illustrious ilk. Plus an exclusive, photo-filled interview with the one and only RAY BRADBURY! Face it, effendi!—if science fiction's ever gonna make it in the comics medium, this is the one! Only a buck for 84 big pages, and worth every hoarded penny—at your newsstands now!

End of unabashed plug—end of Bulpen Page! We return you now to our regularly-scheduled comic-mag!

MIGHTY MARVEL STRIKES AGAIN!

FIRST, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN--NEXT THE FABULOUS FANTASTIC FOUR--NOW, THE POWER-PACKED PRINCE OF ASGARD LASHES OUT IN HIS OWN KING-SIZED SPECIAL! WITH PARDONABLE PRIDE, YOUR BATTY BULLPEN PRESENTS THE LATEST--POSSIBLY THE GREATEST--OF ITS DOUBLE-SIZED TREASURY EDITIONS!



ON SALE SOON!

THOR

NO, ADAM, THEY'LL NEVER GO AWAY EVEN THOUGH YOU'LL NEVER SEE THEM AGAIN!

DO YOU AT LAST COMPREHEND MY POWER!



NOW KNOW ME! KNOW MY SECRET!

LIKE ALL DARK SECRETS, IT'S DEEPLY BURIED...



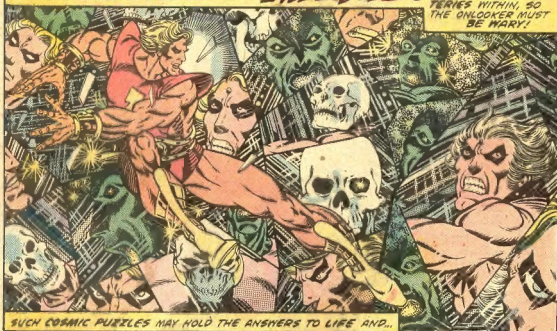
...AND THIS ONE'S HIDDEN DEEPER THAN ANY! FOR IT'S CONCEALED WITHIN YOUR VERY SOUL!



STEEL YOURSELF, ADAM WARLOCK, FOR YOU ARE ABOUT TO LEARN...

...THE SECRET OF THE MAGUS!

UNFORTUNATELY, SOME SECRETS CONTAIN FURTHER MYSTERIES WITHIN, SO THE ONLOOKER MUST BE WARY!



SUCH COSMIC PUZZLES MAY HOLD THE ANSWERS TO LIFE AND...

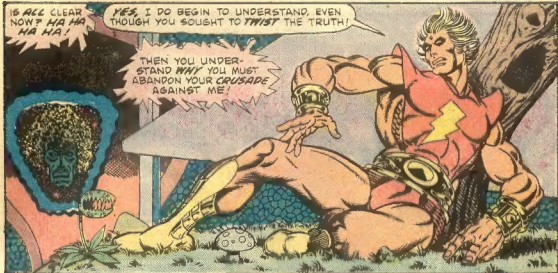
...DEATH!



IS ALL CLEAR
NOW? HA HA
HA HA!

YES, I DO BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND, EVEN
THOUGH YOU SOUGHT TO *THWIST* THE TRUTH!

THEN YOU UNDER-
STAND *WHY* YOU MUST
ABANDON YOUR *CRUSADE*
AGAINST ME!



YOU CANNOT FIGHT
ME! I AM *EVERY-
THING* YOU ARE,
PLUS ALL THE
THINGS YOU *HATE*!



I AM ONLY DOING
WHAT YOU *FEAR* TO
DO! FOR THE *CHOOS-
ING* TO DO IT GIVES
ME THE *POWER* TO
DO IT!

FIGHT ME AND
YOU BATTLE YOUR
VERY *SOUL*. FOR
I AM THE
MAGUS!



OF COURSE, I SHOULD HAVE
REALIZED...THOSE CREATURES
WERE MY OWN *INNER
DEMONS*...

AND THE *MAGUS*...
MAGUS IS LATIN
FOR WISE MAN...
MAGICIAN...
WARLOCK!!



...ONE AND THE
SAME BEING!



HAHA HA HAHA!

THEN, AT LAST, A
RETURN TO...





...REALITY!

...COOH!

YES, THERE IS PAIN,
BUT IT'S A WELCOME
ASSURANCE THAT YOU
YET LIVE, WARLOCK...

...AND THAT IN ITSELF IS SIGNIFICANT!
IT WOULD APPEAR THAT WHILE HE IS
UNABLE TO DESTROY HIS FOE...

...THE SAME HOLDS TRUE
FOR THE MAGUS!



THIS WHOLE AFFAIR IS SO
INSANE I COULD EASILY BE-
LIEVE IT A DREAM!

EVERYTHING,
SAVE THE GIRL'S
BODY BEFORE ME,
SCREAMS THAT ALL THAT
HAS OCCURRED IS NAUGHT
BUT AN ILLUSION!



THAT MY SOUL'S NOT REALLY
SPLIT IN TWO AND RUNNING
AMOK THROUGH SPACE!



IS IT NOT HALLUCINATION
THAT SPURS ME TO STOP
MYSELF FROM RAVAGING
GALAXY UPON GALAXY?

HOW DOES ONE
DEFEAT HIMSELF
WITHOUT
DESTROYING
HIMSELF?



'TIS MADNESS TO GO
ON, YET IF I CEASE
THE STRUGGLE, MAD-
NESS SHALL SURELY
PREVAIL!



THE MAGUS MUST
BE STOPPED AND
ONLY I CAN DO
SO...



NO MATTER WHAT
THE COST!



NEXT:
**WARLOCK
RIDES...**

...THE
**DEATH
SHIP!**